Disconnection/reduction in Vayudoot services

943. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the routes on which the Valudoot services has been reduced or disconnected during the last two years;

(b) what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to restore these services again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) During the last two years, Veyudoot has reduced the frequency of services to Cooch Behar and discontinued operations to Hissar, Bellary and Guddapah.

(b) Whereas the operations to Hissar, Bellary and Cuddapah have been discontinued as the runways there are under repairs, the frequency of services to Cooch Behar has been reduced due to inadequate load factor.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Increase in Cancer Patients in the Country

944. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases of cancer being added in the country every year;

(b) whether Government have formulated any National Cancer Control Programme; and

(c) if so, what are the details in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) It has been roughly estimated that about half a million new cancer cases are being added in the country every year.

(b) and (c) The National Cancer Control Programme has been launched in the country for primary prevention of cancer, dignosis and treatment and distribution and extension of services through Regional Cancer Centres and Medical Colleges. The non-government organisations have also been involved in the programme. A National Cancer Control Board has also been set up to guide the activities of the programme.

Steps to improve Telecommunication Network

945. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecommunication Department has recently taken some steps to improve the telecom services in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the extent to which the services of the telecommunication network in the country has since improved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steps which are being taken to improve the telecom. services in the country are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) National average of fault rate i.e. the number of faults per 100 station per month during the 1st half year ending on 30th September, 1986 has reduced in comparision to 1st half year of the last year (1985-86) from 35.4 to 31.9.

Statement

Steps being taken to improve the telecommunications services are as under:-

(i) Introduction of sophisticated electronic telephone exchanges to